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Customer No.:

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: 6026/1G081-US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Joseph S. CACHINA and James R. ZANOLLI

Serial No.: t/b/a (U.S. National Phase of International Application

No. PCT/US00/26160 filed September 20, 2000)

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

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LETTER ACCOMPANYING U.S. NATIONAL PHASE FILING

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Box PCT

Attn.: DO/EO/US

Sir:

For:

Concurrently herewith, applicants have entered into the U.S. national phase of the above-identified international application.

During the course of international preliminary examination, Examiner Kamand Cuneo had found all of the claims to meet the PCT criteria as to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability. A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report is enclosed.

It is therefore submitted that the claims on file in this application are in condition for allowance under U.S. practice. Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.496(b), it is requested that this application be taken up out of order.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 21, 2001

Edward J. Ellis

Registration No. 40,389 Attorney for Applicant(s)

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